

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE
51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Thomas F. Keating, on January 27, 1989, at 1 p.m. in Room 405 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Senators; Thomas F. Keating, Chairman, Larry Tveit, Fred VanValkenburg, Loren Jenkins, Darryl Meyer, Pete Story, Bill Yellowtail, Elmer Severson, Cecil Weeding, Dorothy Eck and Jerry Noble.

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Senator Larry Stimatz

Staff Present: Bob Thompson and Helen McDonald

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 82

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Representative Mark O'Keefe, Lewis and Clark County, District 45, introduced this bill to designate the last Friday of April as Arbor Day and as an official day of observance in Montana.

List of Testifying Proponents and What Group they Represent:

Mark O'Keefe, Representative
Michael Hier, Nurseryman
Kevin Olson, Montana Logging Association

List of Testifying Opponents and What Group They Represent:

None

Questions From Committee Members: Senator Keating hopes this doesn't lead to another state holiday.

Representative O'Keefe answered it would make the third Friday in April an observance much like Flag Day.

Closing by Sponsor: Representative O'Keefe closed the hearing on this bill noting that it is very important for future Montanans to receive what this generation

has now in many of our communities in the area of trees. Some of our communities have older stock that trees are reaching maturity and no effort has been made to replant them. On Arbor Day of this year, there is a Centennial project between the Department of State Lands and all the schools in Montana to plant two different species of Ponderosa Pine in different parts of the state. This will be a Centennial event for every school in the state.

DISPOSITION OF HB 82

Discussion: None

HEARING ON SENATE BILL 201

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor: Senator Thomas F. Keating opened the hearing on this bill and stated it is merely an extension of the bill that legislature approved last session. It is a very simple and straight forward extension. It deals with the Montana Environmental Policy Act and the permits for oil and gas wells. On Page 4, the bill as presented last year allows oil and gas permitting under MEPA. The governor wanted to add a requirement for a programmatic study of the ramifications of permitting and for the study to make suggestions to the oil and gas commission for adoption. Permits for drilling were exempted under MEPA until 1989 and this bill extends that until 1991.

In explaining this bill, Senator Keating explained that section (3)(b), on page 4 states that the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation shall adopt a programmatic by June 30, 1989. This bill is amended that to say the programmatic may be adopted by June 30, 1991. The extension is obvious but the change from "shall" to "may" is to bring the law into conformance with the intention of the programmatic itself. To meet the requirements of SB 184, the board may choose to implement some of the alternatives discussed in the programmatic. The programmatic itself was not conclusive but was designed to make recommendations to the oil and gas commission in various areas from which it could draw suggestions to add to it's procedures and to eventually adopt into it's rules and the programmatic itself. This document cannot resolve existing legal ambiguities concerning limits of the board's authority. It was suggested that in amending the law that the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

could adopt from the programmatic those parts of the suggested procedure suitable in determining whether oil and gas permits are a major or minor action. That is this bill simply put. It is an extension for 2 years. The programmatic is quite extensive and it would be extremely difficult for the board to go through this document and have public hearings by June 30, 1989. For that reason, an extension is asked for.

List of Testifying Proponents and What Group they Represent:

James C. Nelson, Board of Oil and Gas
Joe Keating, CENEX, Billings
Dean A. Swanson, Board of Oil and Gas
Doug Abelin, Montana Oil & Gas Association

List of Testifying Opponents and What Group They Represent:

Hope Stevens, Self
Robert Dozier, Northern Plains Resource Co.
Janet Ellis, Audobon Society
Bob Stevens, Self
Kim Wilson, Sierra Club
Stan Bradshaw, Trout Unlimited

Testimony:

James C. Nelson, Chairman of the Board of Oil and Gas, stated an extension of the time mandated is needed to adopt the programmatic. They are running a least a month behind. The draft is at the printers now and won't be finished until next week. When the board gets it, then they will study it because they have not been directly involved in the drafting of the document. That process is somewhat complicated because four of the seven members of the board are up for appointment. Essentially a majority of the board is going to come in completely cold. It's the board's intention and desire to comply with the law and have a credible document, that is useful to the board and the public at large. The document covers every facet and every phase of the oil and gas industry and every phase of the board's operation. The board wanted public input and doesn't feel the time frame given is enough to get information from all of the public sectors.

Dean Swanson, member of the Board of Oil and Gas, is asking on behalf of the board for support of the extension. He was appointed to the board 2 years ago when SB 184 mandated the programmatic. He felt that 2 years was enough time to come up with a workable programmatic. This has not been done. It also appears

that it is not possible to complete the review of the programmatic by June 30, 1989. Since 1967 the board has issued over 17,000 drilling permits. The board has not had any problems with the exception of the Bridger Canyon drilling operation. The risk to the environment at this time from the proposed extension is very minimal. The Bridger Canyon episode was a dry hole so nothing really happened as a consequence. It's the board's responsibility to do whatever it can in oil exploration.

Joe Keating is employed by Cenex as General Manager of the Exploration and Production Department. [Exhibit 1]

Hope Steven's family has a ranch in the Big Timber area and is extremely concerned about the consequences of this bill. She felt that the oil and gas companies are not living up to their responsibilities in making sure that in the process of drilling for oil and gas that the environment is being protected. They have a lease with an oil company and decided to investigate possible environmental damage that could result from drilling. A geologist was consulted who warned the Stevens' about possible hazards. These hazards included the amount of water needed to drill and how it could affect the water supply on the ranch especially during severe drought; the composition of the drilling mud if certain additives are used; and the danger of fire during the drilling. When a letter from an attorney was sent to the company, the drilling was postponed. The Stevens' felt that oil and gas companies, when approaching property owners for a lease, should explain the possible hazards involved.

Stan Bradshaw, Trout Unlimited, stated that SB 184 was a unit of negotiation between the interested parties. He was dismayed about the way this has arisen. Given that SB 184 was a negotiating process, it seemed to him it would be appropriate for the proponents of this extension should bring together representatives of various groups, discuss it and let the people know the problems and how they propose to solve them.

Bob Stevens has been a travel agent for 24 years. He knew about the Bridger Canyon problem and thinks more problems like this one will occur. If a line is drawn between Billings and Great Falls, west of that line is the part of our state that is most heavily impacted by tourism. This is the area that is most populated and where most of the important national heritages are in the state. These are sensitive areas and seem to be best adapted for recreation use. The tourism industry

is growing in the western half of Montana. In the year 2000, it will be the No. 1 industry in the state. The oil and gas industry should have a policy within itself to restrain its activities in these most sensitive areas. Private solutions are better than government solutions but if private industry is not being responsible, it will invite counter-reaction. We have some of the most priceless landscape in the world here and we don't want it harmed.

Kim Wilson, from the Sierra Club indicated that some permits to drill gas and oil, just like any other kind of environmental action, may not result in a major impact on the environment. Whether the permit resulted in a major or minor impact, however, should not be predetermined in advance by a government agency. Those things should be determined on a site-by-site basis. That is what SB 184 two years ago was directed to address. The Sierra Club doesn't think it's good public policy to hold the state open to resource development and completely ignore the environmental consequences. The club sees SB 201 as a step in that direction and doesn't like it. The legislature should not follow through with the promises of SB 184 and the agreements that were reached two years ago. It is understood that there would be a slight delay in producing this final report. It doesn't seem to justify a two-year delay.

Janet Ellis, Audubon Society stated that the society feels that the Board of Oil and Gas can accept the programmatic by the June 30, 1989. When the draft programmatic is out next week it starts a time clock. There is a 60-day comment period and that should be over by April 1st. The staff can incorporate those comments in the final EIS and it could be out by June 1, 1989. They have a 2-week comment period which puts it in mid-June. There is a good chance that the board could finish the programmatic by the deadline. This could happen because most of the arguments have already been brought up. The board should be asked how much time it needs, and it should not be given a blanket 2 years. It doesn't make sense if they are a month behind to give them two years. Unless this bill is amended, the Audubon Society suggests that this bill not pass.

Bob Dozier of the Northern Plains Resource Council thinks it's pretty obvious that two years ago an agreement was struck to wait for the programmatic environmental assessment. Now that its ready to come out, the oil and gas industry decides it doesn't need to be regulated by

anything and are trying to pass this bill. The problem will exist for two more years if this bill passes. The industry is trying to get out of MEPA one more time.

Questions From Committee Members:

Senator Weeding wants to know the purpose of changing the "shall" to "may".

Senator Keating answered that the programmatic states it is not a final statement. The board may adopt all or any part of the programmatic. This was merely put into the law to make it more to the intent of the programmatic itself.

Senator Weeding asked if the board chooses not to adopt the programmatic then the language doesn't have to be changed.

Senator Keating responded that the board has the option to take what they want from the programmatic, if anything. The Board of Oil and Gas has the authority to determine procedures and rules governing permitting. It decides the legal procedure for permitting and it decides what should be taken from the programmatic. The agreement two years ago was that there would be a programmatic within the time limit. The programmatic has not been delivered in a timely manner and therefore the the extension is requested.

Senator Yellowtail asked Mr. Nelson, Chairman of the Board, about the "shall" versus "may" and why it was necessary to make the change.

Mr. Nelson answered that the "shall" versus "may" was a distinction without a difference. If the EIS isn't adopted by June 1989 and the language is changed to "may", the practical consequence is the same.

Senator Yellowtail stated that Mr. Nelson's answer was an interesting analysis but the law now says "that you shall adopt this".

Mr. Nelson remarked that it was the board's intention to comply with the law.

Senator Yellowtail stated that if the law changes then you have nothing to comply with.

Mr. Nelson answered that the consequence of the board not developing the EIS would be that the issuance of a drilling permit could be considered a significant state

action.

Senator Yellowtail wanted to know if the extension was granted, would there any requirement to comply with the law until 1991.

Mr. Nelson answered that the "shall" versus "may" ties into the date.

Senator Eck wanted to know if the board would have any objection to changing the language back to "shall".

Mr. Nelson answered that the board will comply with the law whether it's "shall" or "may".

Senator Eck wanted to know what kind of a programmatic would be acceptable.

Senator Keating answered that the law must be obeyed in letter and spirit. The time element is important in completing the programmatic properly.

Senator Eck asked how much more time was needed.

Mr. Nelson answered that the board will use whatever time the legislature allows it.

Senator Jenkins mentioned that the programmatic was big and would go to the public for final hearings.

Mr. Nelson answered that it would send the document to interested people across the state, redraft it as necessary to incorporate the public's comments and then arrive at a final draft.

Senator Jenkins commented that the commission had a pile of work before the final programmatic becomes a finished product.

Mr. Nelson noted that the work accomplished up to this date has not been accomplished by the board, but by the technical advisory committee. He noted that these people have put in thousands of hours, and, now it's up to the board to review what the advisory council and technical committee have drafted and get more public comment for the final draft.

Senator Jenkins asked about the makeup of the board.

Dee Rickman answered that the statute provides for certain members.

Senator Yellowtail asked Kevin Hart about the draft, noting that the committee members are operating here without having seen the draft. There have been some serious charges about material contained in the draft.

Kevin Hart answered that the process follows the requirement and rules of the Montana Environmental Policy Act. A draft EIS is issued to the public with a 60-day comment period. Written comment would be accepted on the material contained in the draft. The draft should cover the provisions contained in SB184.

The draft provides a record of information to be used in future drilling permits. Chapter 5 is essentially alternatives which the board can pick and choose from when deciding how to implement the MEPA in the future. The document will be sent to the public on Tuesday of next week and that will start the comment period which ends on March 31. After the comment period closes, the technical staff will prepare the final EIS. The new information that becomes evident upon publication of the draft will be published in the final document and should comply with SB184.

There is some question now because of the change of administration whether the oil & gas advisory council, which was started under the Schwinden administration, will continue to be in effect. There is a 15-day comment period after release of the final. The project schedule now calls for a final EIS on June 1st. The 15-day comment period ends on June 15. This gives the board 15 days to make a decision. The board has a hearing date on June 29 to make a decision.

Senator Yellowtail wanted to know what sort of policy options are being presented to the board.

Kevin Hart commented that the council has to provide a quick way for the board to review individual drilling for the type of impacts that would be likely to occur. That quick review is called an environment check list. A copy of check list is contained in Chapter 5 of the EIS.

Senator Tveit commented on a line drawn between Billings and Great Falls. We have oil wells in Eastern Montana and west of that line there are no oil wells.

Bob Stevens indicated that he lived in Western Montana and didn't know the situation in Eastern Montana like he did in Western Montana.

Senator Tveit commented to Hope Stevens about an oil company leasing the Stevens' land to drill an oil well and the Stephens' contact with a geologist. He stated he has oil wells on his place and deals with many oil companies, and gets along with them very well. There are other associations to talk to like a mineral association. They would tell you what to expect and what to demand from an oil company.

Hope Stevens answered that oil companies should inform people of possible hazards. The oil companies should inform the lessees that hazards might be possible before they sign a lease.

Senator Eck stated that she had extensive discussions with people in Bozeman but also talked with drilling operators in Wyoming. Their comments were that the major oil companies had no problem abiding with environmental restrictions. They drilled a lot on federal land when environmental restriction were required and they thought it made them better and safer operators.

Joe Keating commented that it's the best judgment of the permitting agency, whether it's the Bureau of Lands or the Oil and Gas Commission, as to what procedures should be followed. The permit is then subject to public challenge. The permitting agency has the responsibility to make the judgment and investigate to make the conclusion. Regardless of their decision, they are subject to public response. The recourse is always back to the permitting agency. If the agency issues a permit with an environmental statement, not the programmatic we are talking about but an environmental impact statement, they have declared that is not a major action in state government.

Senator Yellowtail assumed that the advisory council is responsible and wanted to know if the council is responsible for overseeing and developing the EIS and perhaps approving it.

Joe Keating hasn't seen the first draft yet, that's part of the complaint. The advisory council has not yet seen the draft of the programmatic .

Senator Yellowtail wanted to know about sections 4 and 5 of the programmatic.

Joe Keating understood that it was out and there are two copies in the room. He stated that it's impossible for that document to provide an environmental framework on

which the oil and gas commission can make a decision in issuing oil and gas permits.

Senator Yellowtail questioned Mr. Keating's appointment to the advisory council knowing this.

Joe Keating answered that he developed that opinion after two years on the council. It is an injustice to the Oil and Gas Board to dump this on them and say "here guys, make it work".

Closing by Sponsor:

Senator Keating closed the hearing pointing out that the blowout at Fairview was from a producing well which was permitted years ago and would not be affected by this measure at all. This measure would have affected that well before it was drilled. It was an equipment failure after years of use. There was no evacuation plan when the well blew out for 50 minutes with this very dangerous and toxic gas and yet there were no injuries at all. No one was hurt and the workers restored the well very shortly.

The oil and gas industry has been operating in the state longer than the detractors have been living and there hasn't been any great environmental disasters in the state. Black Leaf Canyon has a gas field that is operating within the overthrust belt west of Great Falls. In Canada there is a huge oil and gas field which deals with hydrogen sulphide gas in great quantities. It is 10 miles from Waterton Lake which is a resort area. They were about 25 producing wells. The gas is processed and one of the most profitable parts of the operation is the sale of the sulfur that is extracted from the gas. They have been operating for 25 years with no injuries and no evacuations so the policies of the industry are safe. One of the first wells drilled in Montana was at a lake which is now within the Glacier Park boundary.

Senator Keating questioned that If oil and gas explorations and production is so devastating why then is not Montana a desert? As a matter of fact the oil and gas industry has not done any damage to this state in 70 years. The oil and gas industry has reclaimed every disturbance that it has made and it has added considerably to the economics of this state in providing jobs, producing new wealth and revenues for all kinds of purposes. It has cleaned up its mess when it is done.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

January 27, 1989

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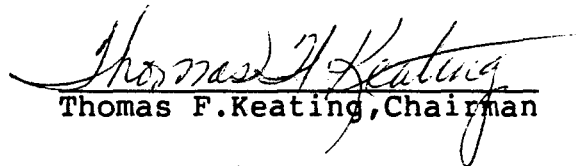
Oil and gas permitting has been exempt from MEPA for a year and half and there is no devastation. There have not been any wells permitted in any area that has done any environmental damage whatsoever so it's safe to allow an extension of the time to the Board of Oil and Gas to make the determination that they need to make in order to comply with the law, protect the environment, and the general public. Mr. Keating urged the committee to please avoid all the misinformation, calm your fears and give the board a little consideration and time to do the job.

DISPOSITION OF SB 201

Discussion: The hearing is closed and the meeting adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 3:45 p.m.


Thomas F. Keating, Chairman

senmin.127

TFK/hmc

ROLL CALL

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

50~~5~~⁶ LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date 1-27-89

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Chairman Tom Keating	✓		
Vice-Chairman Larry Tveit	✓		
Senator Fred VanValkenburg	✓		
Senator Loren Jenkins	✓		
Senator Darryl Meyer	✓		
Senator Lawrence Stimatz			
Senator Pete Story	✓		
Senator Bill Yellowtail	✓		
Senator Elmer Severson	✓		
Senator Cecil Weeding	✓		
Senator Dorothy Eck	✓		
Senator Jerry Noble	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.



SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 1

DATE 1-27-89

BILL NO. SB 201

CENEX • Post Office Box 21479 • 2220 Grant Road • Billings, Montana 59104 • (406) 656-4343

PS/

Montana State Senate
Natural Resources Committee
Helena, Montana 59620

RE: SB 201 - Hearing January 27, 1989
Board of Oil and Gas Exemption
from MEPA until June 30, 1991

Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to present comments on this proposed legislation. I favor SB 201.

My name is Joe Keating. I am employed by CENEX as General Manager of the Exploration and Production Department located in Billings. As such, I was appointed by Governor Schwinden to serve on the Oil and Gas Programmatic Statement Advisory Council.

The council consists of eight persons appointed by the Governor to represent the interests of state agencies, the federal government, landowners and the oil industry. The council is charged to advise in drafting a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement relative to oil and gas exploration and development in Montana. The Statement is to be drafted by a Technical Committee also appointed by the Governor comprised of nine state employees representing various agencies.

These two groups came into being with passage and signing of SB 184 effective April 15, 1987, which provided that issuance of a permit by the Board of Oil and Gas to drill a test well would be exempt from the Montana Environmental Policy Act until a Programmatic Environmental Statement is adopted but no later than June 30, 1989.

Ex. #1
1-27-89

PS2

The Advisory Council has met seven times in the Programmatic process:

July 7, 1987
September 17, 1987
February 26, 1988
July 11, 1988

August 24, 1988
October 17, 1988
October 18, 1988

In addition, a series of meetings was held across the state for public attendance and input.

The first draft of the complete Programmatic has not yet been reviewed by the Advisory Council. Reportedly this is due soon. Following final review, the document is to be circulated for public comment. A redraft is expected after public input. That final draft will be delivered by the Governor to the Board of Oil and Gas for an acceptance process. It is expected that the June 30, 1989 date provided in SB 184 cannot be met if the Board of Oil and Gas is to adopt a meaningful document.

For this reason, as an Advisory Council member, I strongly urge adoption of SB 201.

Secondly, for the record, I believe this Senate Committee should be aware of the content and value of the Statewide Programmatic Environmental Statement that was legislated under SB 184.

SB 184 provided that the Programmatic Statement shall include:

1. such environmental impacts as may be found associated with oil and gas drilling and production;
2. such methods that may be found to mitigate or avoid long term impacts that may be caused by drilling or production;
3. the process that will be employed by the Board of Oil and Gas to evaluate potential impacts;
4. a method of incorporating environmental review in the Board rules to provide for an expedient process;
5. the maximum time periods that will be required for the permit process; and
6. a record of information and analysis for the Board to rely on in responding to public and private concerns.

At the last Advisory Council review on October 17, 1988, after which many amendments were submitted, the Statement consisted of some 365 pages, plus appendices, divided into five chapters as follows:

- Chapter One: Introduction and background of the impact statement.
- Chapter Two: A description of oil and gas drilling and production operations.
- Chapter Three: Roles and responsibilities for oil and gas operations.
- Chapter Four: Description of impacts and mitigating measures.
- Chapter Five: A summary of impacts and mitigating measures. Topics for potential Board rule revision. Possible permit review process. Possible Board evaluation of environmental impacts. Possible Board relationship with other agencies. Possible Board staffing and budget.

In my opinion, Chapters One, Two and Three are well written and very factual for the uninformed to acquire information about the oil and gas industry in Montana and the regulatory structure.

However, Chapter Four which contains the only material pertaining to environmental issues is general in nature. It is stated numerous times that Montana is too large and geographically diverse to specifically identify the potential environmental impacts and potential mitigating measures for all areas. Instead, a general presentation with some examples constitutes the entire investigation of environmental concerns and remedies.

Again, in my opinion, Chapter Four is not what appears to be legislated in SB 184 as to providing an environmental review and a record of information and analysis for Board reliance.

Chapter Five, after again referring to impacts and mitigation, is a list of suggestions that the Board of Oil and Gas may consider in order to

Ex. #1

1-27-89

pg 4

do a better job of investigating and making decisions on environmental concerns.

Clearly, Chapter Five is not the directive contained in SB 184 which provides that the Statement will contain the process to be used by the Board in evaluating impacts, will contain a method of review and will contain the time tables for processing.

What I view as a failure to comply with SB 184 is not the fault of the Technical Committee nor the Advisory Council. It appears that SB 184 dictates a monumental task that cannot be accomplished in any reasonable period of time for any reasonable amount of money. Also SB 184 has created the potential for enormous conflict, inefficiency and bureaucratic breakdown by authorizing an executive committee to deliver a mandated blueprint to the Board of Oil and Gas directing how it will conduct its business.

As a working member of the Advisory Council who has made many contributions to the Statement required under SB 184, I predict the final document will not contain what was legislated and will be of no practical value to the State of Montana.

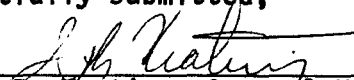
If the members of the Senate have concerns regarding the operation of the Board of Oil and Gas, these concerns should be dealt with directly. SB 184 appears to be a costly effort to create an executive committee with authority to direct the functions of the Board of Oil and Gas.

Your support of SB 201 is respectfully requested.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



J. R. Keating, General Manager
CENEX Exploration and Production



Montana Audubon Legislative Fund



Testimony on SB 201
Senate Natural Resource Committee
January 27, 1989

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE 1-27-89

BIL. NO. SB 201

Mr. Chariman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Janet Ellis and I'm here today representing the Montana Audubon Legislative Fund. The Audubon Fund is composed of 9 Chapters of the National Audubon Society and has over 2500 members in Montana.

The Audubon Fund opposes SB 201 in its present form.

The Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) is designed to review "major actions" of state government that are "significantly affecting the quality of the Human environment." Such actions require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement - a process that allows alternatives to be examined and the public to have a voice when something "significant" is about to happen to their environment.

This policy makes sense. It allows Montanans to stop and think and plan when something "significant" is about to happen to our environment.

Generally, oil and gas drilling does not "significantly" affect our environment. With that in mind, the 1987 Legislature passed SB 184 to call for a programmatic environmental statement to be done in order to expedite processing oil and gas drilling permits that will create minor or no environmental impacts. That programmatic environmental statement should be ready for the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation to adopt by June of this year. With the adoption of that programmatic, a check-list for LEGALLY DEFENSIBLE, MEPA-complying review could also be adopted. It is true that the rules facilitating the programmatic review will not be adopted by June 30. It is our assessment, however, that the rule completion is not necessary for the Board of Oil and Gas to be in compliance with MEPA - passage of the check-list is the only requirement. For this reason, we do not feel that it is necessary to exempt oil and gas from MEPA for two more years.

The second aspect of the bill that concerns us, is the section removing the requirement that the Board of Oil and Gas adopt the programmatic. Why shouldn't they adopt it? Adopting the programmatic is designed to expedite the process of review for standard (low or no impact) projects. It will provide for a legally defensible review of projects with minor impacts. It will give landowners better information regarding potential impacts while negotiating a lease for an oil and gas well. It will allow the board to emphasize preventative measures to avoid unnecessary environmental damage before drilling occurs: such as determining proper construction and reclamation procedures that need to be considered.

The benefits of adopting the nearly completed programmatic are many. The disadvantages of not adopting it are many: driving wedges between interested parties who want this issue resolved and continuing the debate between people who have worked hard to compromise.

Please let us move forward - not backward. Vote "Do not pass" on this regressive measure.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME: Tom Richmond DATE: 1-27-89

ADDRESS: 2535 ST JOHN'S AVE, BILLINGS

PHONE: 656-0040

REPRESENTING WHOM? BOARD OF OIL & GAS

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: S13201

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME: JAMES C. Nelson DATE: 1-28-89

ADDRESS: Box 428 COT BANK MT 59427

PHONE: 873-2277

REPRESENTING WHOM? BOARD of OIL & GAS

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 201

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME: DEAN A. SWANSON DATE: 1-28-89

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2337, Billings, Mt. 59103

PHONE: 259-7668

REPRESENTING WHOM? Board of Oil & Gas Conservation

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 201

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

DATE 1-27-89

COMMITTEE ON Natural Resources

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppos
DEAN A. SWANSON	Bo of Oil + Gas	SB201	X	
DOUG ABELIN	MONTANA Oil + Gas Assoc	SB201	✓	
KELLY CAVODY	BN	SB201+		
Janelle Fallon	MPA	201	✓	
JAMES C. NELSON	BOARD of Oil & GAS	201	X	
Doug Smith	Shurden Co.	201		X
Robert Dozier	Northern Plains Res. Co	201		X
Hope Stevens	Box 459 - Bozeman self	201		X
Janet Ellis	MT Audubon	201		X
Mark Orfner	HD 4.5	82	X	
Tom Richmond	BOARD OF OIL & GAS	201	✓	
Harold Ude	CENEX	201	X	
Corinne Courtney	CENEX	201	X	
Joe Vesting	CENEX		X	
MICHAEL HIRL	NIRSEYMAN	HB82	X	
ARMY Anderson	Shell Oil ^{Shurden Exp}	201	✓	
Bill Ateneve	Bozeman self	201		X
BRACE HAYDEN	myself	201		
Suzanne Hanlon	self	201		X
W. David Darby	O&G Drilling Advisory Council	201		
Kevin Hart	Oil + Gas Programable - Project Man	201		
Jim Jensen	MEIC	SB201		X
Kim Wilson	Sierra Club	SB201		✓
Gay Halgerson	MT Audubon	SB 201		✓
Stan Bradshaw	Trount Unlimited	SB201		✓
Jan Cool	Exxon	SB 201	X	